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ACTION SR-04

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7438  
INFO US MISSION GENEVA 1205  
AMCONSUL KARACHI

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/SEC/HR  
REVIEWED BY *[Signature]* DATED *2/12/86*  
FOR THE RECORD, LATE  
OF AMEMB  
END OF MESSAGE  
D.C. WASHINGTON  
RELEASED *[initials]*  
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E.O. 12065: NA

TAGS: SREF

SUBJECT: PROPOSED CARE MEDICINES FOR AFGHAN REFUGEES

REF: STATE 57552

1. WE HAVE NOW HEARD FROM UNHCR, RED CRESCENT, ICRC AND CARE REGARDING THE LIST OF MEDICINES PROPOSED IN REPTEL. UNHCR WANTED TO COMPARE THE CARE LIST TO A MASTER LIST TO BE DEVELOPED BY THE GOP. TO DATE WE HAVE SEEN ONLY A LIST FOR BALUCHISTAN AND UNHCR HASN'T TOLD US HOW IT SEES THE CARE LIST COMPARED TO THE BALUCHISTAN REQUEST. WITH UNHCR REP KOHAUT IN GENEVA IT MAY BE NEXT WEEK BEFORE WE CAN GET A DEFINITIVE ANSWER FROM HIM.

2. RED CRESCENT AND ICRC REPS AGREE THAT THE MEDICINES, WHILE RELEVANT TO THE RELIEF EFFORT, ARE NOT ESSENTIAL. THEY SAY ALL NECESSARY MEDICINES CAN BE PURCHASED

3. CARE REP HAS SAID THAT DR. HENRY PAULS, FORMERLY WITH CARE MEDICO IN KABUL, AND INVOLVED WITH REFUGEES IN PAKISTAN, EXAMINED THE CARE LIST AND SAID THE COMMODITIES ON THE LIST, WHICH WERE AVAILABLE IN QUANTITY, WOULD BE

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USEFUL TO THE RELIEF EFFORT. SINCE THE SHIPMENT IS A

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DONATION FROM THE UPJOHN COMPANY, THERE ARE SOME DRUGS WHICH ARE NOT TERRIBLY RELEVANT TO THE SITUATION HERE, E.G. PILLS FOR PARKINSON'S DISEASE. HOWEVER THESE ARE IN SUCH SMALL QUANTITIES THAT IT ISN'T WORTH IT TO SEPARATE THEM FROM THE REST OF THE SHIPMENT.

4. CARE HAS DONE A RUDIMENTARY COST COMPARISON BETWEEN LOCALLY MANUFACTURED DRUGS AND THE DRUGS ON ITS LIST AND FINDS THAT, FOR THE ITEMS CHECKED, THE COSTS ARE COMPARABLE. IT APPEARS TO US THAT IF WE HAVE THE OPTION OF USING OUR \$10,000 TO BUY LOCAL MEDICINE OR SHIP THE CARE CARGO, WE BUY MORE DRUGS BY SHIPPING THE CARE CARGO. WILL PRESS UNHCR AND, IF NECESSARY, THE GOP TO FINALIZE A MASTER LIST FOR BOTH THE NWFP AND BALUCHISTAN AND IN THE FUTURE WE WOULD HOPE MEDICAL SUPPLIES COULD BE PROCURED AGAINST THE LIST.  
HUNNEL

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